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INCREASE IN THE FREIGHT RATES

Utah shippers will learn what may be in store for them in the way of the proposed increase in freight rates on Christmas eve providing the conference of the Trans-Missouri Freight Tariff bureau, which is now in session at Denver, completes its work before Thursday. J. A. Reeves, general freight agent of the Oregon Short Line, is at the meeting representing the Harriman lines entering Utah common points. Representatives from practically every road west of the Mississippi river are in attendance to go over the tariffs prepared and to prevent conflicts between through and combination rates from Missouri river points to Utah common points.

While the railroad officials say that the increase of \$10 to \$100 a car on freight entering Utah is necessary to enable the roads to purchase more equipment and to carry on their business profitably, the Commercial club traffic bureau is preparing to file a protest with the interstate commerce commission as soon as the new tariff sheets containing an increase are filed.

The rates which went into effect

two years ago when the traffic bureau won its fight in the intermountain rate cases expired November 15, and the freight departments of the railroads concerned were already at work on new tariffs owing to a delay in the printing of the tariff sheets and to mistakes having been made in the combination and through rates. The meeting of the trans-Missouri freight tariff bureau, which has the last word in the matter, so far as the railroads are concerned, was not called until yesterday. The calling of the members of the bureau together by telegraph is said to mean that the railroads will file the tariffs and ask that the new rates go into effect as soon as possible after the 5 per cent increase on lines east of the Mississippi becomes effective.

Advance of 15 Per cent.

A general advance of 15 per cent is to be asked by the Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line and Denver & Rio Grande on freight from Missouri river points and east of that river to Utah common points and Salt Lake. In many cases an increase of 5 to 10 per cent will be asked upon commodities, and an increase of 20 to 35 per cent on other classes.

Razors and Pocket Knives at the right price at Lowe's.

WOULD GO IN TO SEE LOPEZ

Brother of the Bandit Offers to Enter the Mine.

Bingham, Dec. 22.—Purporting to be an appeal from a brother of Raphael Lopez to a Salt Lake detective for aid in getting the Mexican safely out of the Apex mine, a letter was turned over yesterday to Deputy Sheriff Sanford Hedges.

The letter was inclosed within another letter addressed to the officials here. The one communication was a letter of explanation from the supposed detective, in which he says he has no sympathy with such an endeavor as the letter requests.

Deputy Hedges was reticent about the contents of the letter, refusing to allow copies for publication. The postmark was almost indecipherable, but was made out to be Powder Springs, Ga. The letter is thought by Deputy Hedges to be a fake, as it is dated November 23, at which time Lopez had not yet made his way back to the mine.

"Milo Lopez" is the name signed to the letter. The writer explains that he has a brother in trouble in a mine in Bingham and asks the one to whom it is addressed to secure a position as a guard and help him out. A liberal reward is promised. After the Mexican should be smuggled out of the mine, he was to be taken by railroad to Denver, where the writer promised to meet the detective and the refugee at the Metropolitan hotel, corner of Market and Fifteenth streets.

Efforts of Deputy Hedges to locate the man who is supposed to have received the letter and remailed it to the officials of Bingham, were not successful yesterday. The letter had been forwarded to him from Salt Lake.

Despite the fact that many persons doubt that the Mexican is in the mine at all or that he is imprisoned behind the bulkheads in the Andy workings, those who have been closely connected with the hunt since he took refuge in the Apex workings refuse to believe that he has escaped. Friends of Samuel Rogers, the shift boss who told of seeing Lopez in the Andy tunnel a week ago last Thursday and Friday, have been unable to locate Rogers in Salt Lake, where it was said he was visiting friends. It is believed now that he may have gone east. Those who know Rogers well, however, refuse to doubt his story of having seen the Mexican and talked with him.

Snow started falling afresh here tonight, promising to all materially to the two feet through which the guards have been wading at the mine for the past several days. So far as could be learned, no one has heard any sound in the last two days that could be construed to indicate that anyone is alive in the workings closed by the bulkheads. Though no information is being officially given out as to the time set for the opening of the part of the mine in which the Mexican is believed to be imprisoned, it is understood that the bulkheads will be removed soon after Christmas.

Everything you buy at Lowe's has value.

MONTANA BOOSTERS TO BE WELCOMED

Salt Lake, Dec. 23.—When a special train carrying at least 200 Montana boosters passes through Salt Lake January 22, Salt Lake will give evidence of its hospitality. This is the opinion of A. H. Heilbrommer, traveling freight and passenger agent of the Salt Lake Route, who arrived in the city yesterday. The special train will be for the purpose of carrying Montana residents to southern California for a sixty-day stay, and it is planned to make the excursion an annual affair. Last year enough persons went to Los Angeles from Montana to justify such a train and it was decided to run one this year.

Mr. Heilbrommer's headquarters are in Butte and he appears to be one of the best boosters for Montana in this city. He declares that Montana farmers are so prosperous that instead of freezing their hands on cold pump handles and getting up at 4 a.m. when the thermometer is below zero, as do farmers of other sections, they are like the birds and fitt south at the first approach of inclement weather. He says they make so much money in the summer time that many of them put caretakers in charge of their farms during most of the winter and bask in the sunshine of California until spring approaches. Of

this class the special train will be made up.

The train will be made up at Butte from special cars filled at Helena, Great Falls and other cities. Connections will also be made with the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. The train will be brought into Salt Lake on the Oregon Short Line. A long enough stop will be made in Zion that the passengers can leave at least a little money in this city. The Salt Lake Route will then whisk the train away to southern California.

Mr. Heilbrommer will accompany the train as Salt Lake Route representative and E. A. Shewe, general agent of the Union Pacific lines, will also go along. The train will consist of about seven sleepers with the finest equipment.

Mistletoe, Holly and Pine Wreaths. Hendershot. Phone 206.

HARBOR AND RIVER BILLS IS TO PASS

Washington, Dec. 23.—(Special)—A river and harbor bill, generous in its proportions, will be reported and passed during the present session of the 63rd Congress notwithstanding that the order has gone forth to cut appropriations to "the bone."

At a recent meeting of chairman of house committees charged with preparing appropriation bills and called at the instance of Speaker Clark, it was most generally agreed that appropriations should be held down to the actual necessities of the government and the demands of public works now in process of completion. These conclusions, however, did not go as far as the public press indicates, that new projects in the forthcoming river and harbor bill will be noticeable by their absence, the bill carrying appropriations for projects already under way and studiously ignoring new projects, which have the endorsement of the Chief of Engineers.

As a matter of fact the members of the Rivers and Harbors Committee expect to see a bill passed that will provide for several projects.

QUESTION OF AIDING A POOR FAMILY BRINGS A MORAL

A member of a certain society said the other day to me that the society did not intend to help a certain poor family in Ogden, because the head of the family was not worthy of it. Is there really anyone so cruel as to desire that little children shall go without a Christmas because the father is unworthy?

In days gone by, people looked upon the poor as God's poor. God wanted it so—if not, He would have given them plenty, just as he has his chosen ones. Of old, there were those who felt piously upon their knees and thanked God that He had dealt kindly with them and with others; they thanked Him that they had shelter, food and clothes, and won the things by not too hard a lot in life, though millions labored long and cruelly and could not have comforts; they believed and felt somewhat that the Lord had not thought it wise to be good to everyone, they knew they were better. This was a comfortable thought and very hard to give up. And I wonder if some of us do not think this today! But we know that today is wiser and happier than yesterday, and tomorrow will be wiser and happier than today. And our conscience no longer allows us to be quite so content as we used to be; and some of us, when we sit down to our laden board, cannot help asking ourselves somewhat uneasily why all men should not sit down to as beautiful a feast and by what right we feast? We ask, Did God intend that there should be in a world where there is plenty for all, is He pleased when we thank Him because it is so?

But let us rejoice that a better day is coming. There is growing very slowly the conviction among men that God's poor are every man's poor and that no man has any right to give thanks this Christmas because he is enjoying what is withheld from others. If we feast while our neighbor starves, we have nothing to be thankful for. Even so we soothe our conscience by sending food and clothing to these poor of the Lord.

Others selling red cross stamps on



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House Coats that spell comfort priced as low as \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.50.

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Sweater Coats, Jackets and Caps, for the out-of-door chap, are the finest thing for men—and women, too. Priced from \$2.00 and up.

We shall be glad to have you compare the assortment and values offered with similar goods wherever sold.

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Half Between Washington and Hudson.

street corners in order to help the poor of the city, which have been with us and always will be with us.

We need not think that this habit of thought is dead. Human nature is not so easily changed. But let us be thankful that there has come a vision upon the earth of a better day, when every man shall go to his work with joy and receive from it a reward which shall make it possible for him to live a life that is complete and free. When that day comes, we will not rejoice for what we have, but for what all mankind may have. Let us all this day a day of peace, of liberty and of justice.

(Signed) MRS. L. BEUSCHEL.

DOUBLE LIFE OF NOTED LAWYER

Monticello, N. Y., Dec. 22.—The mystery woman of the Melvin H. Couch tragedy—who dwelt hidden for three years in the office of the noted lawyer and who revealed herself today for the first time beside her dead body in the presence of his wife—has electrified the even life of this little city with a human drama incomparable.

The shock of the sudden death of the former district attorney and county judge, leading figure of law and politics in Sullivan county, would have been enough to stir the district. But the woman who suddenly thrust open the door between his room and her secret hermitage, who stood proudly before the gathered officers and cried she was the wife of his heart, has overtopped all other interest.

She is still a mystery. That Adelaide M. Branch is her name; that she is a graduate of the Oswego normal school; that she lived in Mid-

dletown some thirteen years ago; that she met Couch fifteen years ago when she was selling books, and that she sacrificed her life in the world because of her love for the man; these are the only definite facts known tonight.

Since a year ago last September she has not once emerged from the little converted office—it is not more than six feet wide and sixteen feet long—into the outer world. Doubtless frequently she entered the rooms of Mr. Couch adjoining. But through all his long business hours she sat in compelled silence beyond the partition and translated French novels and worked at her exquisite embroideries. Only one little window opened on the street. Like Tennyson's Elaine in her tower room, she labored at her art and dared not look through the window.

During the first two months of her seclusion she sometimes left the place at night, but very rarely—so rarely that no one in Monticello knew she lived in the town. A year ago, in September, she went to Middletown to attend the wedding of a daughter of an old friend. She slipped quietly back to her self-willed cell.

Mr. Couch died of a rupture of the aorta as he lay on a couch in the living room adjoining his office—no woman's room.

KAIGHN BACK HOME FROM A COAST TRIP

Salt Lake, Dec. 23.—Colonel M. M. Kaighn, receiver of the United States land office in this city, and Mrs. Kaighn arrived home yesterday from San Francisco, after an absence of more than a month, during which time they visited many points on the Pacific coast.

Speaking last night of his observations in California, Colonel Kaighn said:

"There are about 2000 persons from Utah, principally Salt Lake, living in Los Angeles and vicinity. David Evans is president of a Utah organization with an average standing membership of about 400, which holds

monthly meetings. At the meeting of December 12 I delivered an address on Utah, and it seems that my praises of this state and its resources and products was sufficiently warm to arouse some jealousy, even in some former Utahns.

"On the nights and mornings of November 24 to 27, sheets of ice were frozen on open water at Los Angeles.

"Politics in that region is a badly-mixed affair. While the Republicans, Democrats, Progressives and Socialists are comparatively strong neither is sufficiently so to be able to control. In the last presidential election the Progressives combined with the Socialists and won out, the Republicans having no ticket in the field, but voting with the Democrats in an attempt to beat the other combination.

"Many former Utah residents are getting to the front in Los Angeles and San Francisco. In the first named city David Evans is a possible candidate for mayor in the city election of next November. Henry S. McCallum has a large law practice in Los Angeles and is likely to be a Republican congressional candidate in the next election in that district. A. F. Phillips, formerly of The Salt Lake Tribune, now has control of the Los Angeles Financial News, and Burl Armstrong is employed on the force of the Times.

General Otis has rebuilt the Times building, a splendid structure of eleven stories, three of which are below the street level. William Randolph Hearst is putting up a new building for the Examiner, which will be even greater than that of the Times.

When Mending Umbrellas.

Take a small piece of black sticking plaster and soak it until it is quite soft; place it carefully under the hole inside and let it dry. This is better than darning, as it closes the hole tighter without stitching.

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Christmas so Dear Will Soon Be Here, Is the Cheer All Over the World

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